

AB 115

Low Wage Workers Health Care Expansion

PROBLEM

AHCEP, created by AB 12 (Beall), Chapter 677, Statutes of 2007, provides health care coverage to eligible adults who live and are employed in Santa Clara County, earn incomes up to 350 percent of the federal poverty level, and are without health insurance.

The program is administered by Santa Clara Family Health Plan and is called the Healthy Workers program. Existing law requires that the cost of health coverage be paid through a combination of contributions paid by the small business, premiums paid by participating employees, and any county, federal, state, or private sector funding made available.

Existing law limits the program to serve a maximum of 5,000 employees and prohibits their dependents, spouses, and domestic partners from being eligible.

THIS BILL

This bill makes changes to the AHCEP pilot program as passed by the Legislature in AB 12 (Beall), Chapter 677, Statutes of 2007. AHCEP will provide health care coverage to the low-income eligible employees of small businesses in the County, not to exceed 5,000 employees in the county. AHCEP will be administered by the local initiative in the County, Santa Clara Family Health Plan, and the County is planning to provide hospital-based services to program enrollees through county-operated public hospitals.

STATUS/VOTES

SUPPORT

Santa Clara Family Health Plan-Sponsor

OPPOSITION

None on file.

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